



# News Release

## Wisconsin Department of Transportation

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### **US 12 needs assessment study to proceed with the next phase**

FORT ATKINSON, Wis. - The Wisconsin Department of Transportation announced today (May 28), that they would begin to look for solutions to the issues raised by the US 12 Needs Assessment Study in Fort Atkinson.

WisDOT started the comprehensive study over one year ago to identify key needs for US 12 from Whitewater to Madison. The needs assessment focused on how US 12 currently serves the Fort Atkinson area and how it is expected to operate in the future. A wide range of issues, including public expectations, land use issues, highway safety and traffic congestion were analyzed. The decision to conduct further studies to look for solutions was based on extensive public involvement and engineering analysis.

At the beginning of the Needs Assessment Study, focus groups were established that included local members representing the city of Fort Atkinson and the town of Koshkonong.

“The efforts and local insight provided by these committee members has been extremely valuable in assisting the department in assessing the needs of US 12 in and around Fort Atkinson,” said Rose Phetteplace, district director for the Madison area. “Any solutions that are developed will look at balancing regional, state and local traffic needs with the safety, environmental, economic and social impacts.”

The next steps include WisDOT working closely with local units of government to determine solutions to the needs raised by the study. All alternatives will be looked at, including improvements to the existing US 12, the no-build alternative and bypasses.

The Needs Assessment report is available at the City of Fort Atkinson Municipal Building 101 North Main Street or at the Koshkonong Town Hall W5609 Star School Road.

**-WisDOT-**

Mission: To provide leadership in the development and operation of a safe and efficient transportation system.